"Unwritten Law"; Notable Instances of Its Application.

Its Application Bereaved the Emperor of Austria. Who Took No Revenge for the Killing of His Son-Prince Baldwin of Belgium, Heir Apparent to the Throne, Violated Its Provisions, and His Slaver an Indignant Husband. Was Never Troubled by the Authorities-It Has a Relation, Too, in European Countries to the Duel. to Cheating and to Suicide.

According to It the Co-respondent in a Divorce Case Is Expected to Persure Himself Like a Gentleman' - Unless Stanford White Was Actually Caught in the Act of Insulting Mrs Harry Thaw Her Hushand Was Not Justified in Killing Bim Under the Unwritten

Of all the popular phrases of the English language there is none that is more misused and misunderstood than that of "unwritten law." And just at the present time it is on everybody's lips in connection with the trial for murder of Harry K. Thaw.

To judge from popular comment, one would imagine that its jurisdiction was restricted exclusively to one or at the most two particular classes of homielde. But it covers a far larger ground and affects almost every phase of our life.

Among the several stories current concerning the mysterious tragedy of that by so doing he would render him-Meyerling, which robbed the venerable emperor of Austria of his only son, the most generally accepted articles of war prescribe the penalty version is that he was slain by the of being cashiered for every officer uncles of Baroness Marie Vetsera or involved in a duel either as a princielse that he was subjected by them pal or as a second. to such bodily injuries that he blow his brains out, the men having learned of the prince's intention to cut adrift from the girl, in compliance with his pledge to his parents, instead of marrying her after securing a divorce from Crown Princess Stephanie,

Prince Baldwin Paid Penalty.

PRINCE BALDWIN

apartments of Mrs. Deacon on that memorable night in the hotel at Nice, and shot him as he endeavored to conceal himself behind a sofa, he acted strictly in accordance with the demands of unwritten law, and it may safely be assumed that if he had been a Frenchman instead of a foreigner, and an American at that, he would never have been sentenced to even the brief term of imprisonment to which he was condemned.

Unwritten Law and the Duello.

Duelling is even more strictly forsidden by law in England than on the continent. But if a member of the English diplomatic service, or an officer of the English army or navy, receives while abroad a challenge to fight, or is made the subject of an indignity calling for redress to fight, he is forced to resign not only his commission but also the membership of his clubs. Not even all the immense social influence of colonel the Hon. Frederick Wellesley, brother of the late Earl Cowley, and now husband of the widowed Duchess of Wellingtor, was able to save him from a fate such as this while acting as charge d'affaires of Great Britain at Vienna some 12 or 15 years ago. Col. Welleslev. who was also A. D. C. to Queen Victoria, became involved in the Austrian capital in a quarrel about a woman with an Austrian nobleman, Count K who resented to such an extent his behavior, as well as his remarks, that he struck him with his glove across the face and challenged him to fight. Wellesley refused, however, to accept the challenge on the ground self liable to dismissal from the army, owing to the fact that the English

Called to Task by Itis General.

Wellesley was at once relieved of his office of charge d'affaires at the suggestion of the Viennese court, which did not relish the idea of being compelled to accord diplomatic honors to a man who had thus shown the white feather, and shortly after his return to London one of his fellow-In Brussels, in the Avenue Louise, officers of the Guards, Capt. John Del foreign visitors are still shown a de- acour, who had witnessed the affair serted house, where Prince Bahiwin of at Vicana, brought the matter before Belgium, favorite nephew of King Leo- the notice of the other members of pold, and heir apparent to the throne, the corps. In due course it reached was killed by an indignant husband, the ears of the old duke of Cambridge, of princely but not royal rank. In cousin of Queen Victoria and generalthis instance, however, the tragedy issimo of the British army. He sent was followed by a separation of the for Col. Wellesley and asked him if noble couple involved. Baldwin of it were true that he had taken shelter Belgium, in spite of his popularity, behind the army regulations to avoid

damned to you!" replied the burly | sion, extorted from him in a moment and ordering his aide-de-camp in waiting to show the colonel to the door. that Col. Wellesley, who in his boyhood had been a page of honor of Queen Victoria, had been "graciously in the eyes of unwritten law is unfair permitted" to resign his commission in the army.

How an Emperor Avenged a Blow. ficers are debarred from fighting among their relatives than a man duels with people of the working classes, so are they precluded from meeting royal personages and crowned heads on the field of honor. If a young officer during a heated argument bered against the house concerned with some comrade of royal or imperial rank receives a blow, he has no alternative but to blow his own brains out.

On one memorable occasion Emperson to prevent an act of self-de- anything that statute could devise. struction of this kind. The late Archduke Otto, his nephew, while en- himself, it extends to those who are deavoring in a drunken freak to con- nearest and dearest to him, and he

old royal prince, swinging on his heel of exasperation and when smarting under a sense of injustice, resulted in the ruin of his political career and in few days later it was announced his being blacklisted by English soclety.

Perhaps the most mortal of all sins play at cards, and there are few families of birth and breeding on either side of the Atlantic who would not in-In the same way that European of finitely prefer to have a murderer who has been caught cheating at the card table. For it inflicts a stain upon the family escutcheon which can never be effaced, and which is rememfrom generation to generation. A man caught in the act of unfair play is exempt from punishment by the tribunals of the land. But the penalty imposed upon him by unwritten law peror Francis Joseph intervened in is immeasurably more severe than For instetad of being restricted to

TURN DANCING MASTER AND BE DAMNED TO YOU MAS E.P. DEAGON.

A JAPANESE OF RANK COMMITING HARI-KIRI.

LOWARD PARKER DEACON.

duct a bacchanalian party of men and | has no alternative but either to kill women into the apartments of his himself or else to disappear and seek wife, the Archduchess Marie Josepha his fortune in some remote foreign -in order, as he explained, that they country, where, disguised as to apmight see what an archduchess pearance, silent as to his origin, and looked like in bed-was stopped in the under an assumed name, he passes corridor leading to her apartments by his time in fear and trembling lest he hody anyone excepting the archduke | Jew of old from his temperary refuge. who endeavored to pass him.

The crowd, sobered by the seriousness of the situation, hesitated and then withdrew. But the archduke was so beside himself with rage at being balked in his project that he struck the young officer a blow in the face. The matter was brought to the immediate notice of the commander of the garrison, who communicated by telegraph with the emperor. Francis Joseph ordered that the young officer be prevented from doing himself any harm, at all costs, hastened to the scene from Vienna and, having assembled all the principal officers summoned both his nephew. Archduke Otto, and the young alde-de-camp to his presence.

Apostrophizing the latter in his kindliest manner, he exclaimed: prived him of his command. The young officer was promoted and decorated. But had it not been for the emperor's interference and for the manner in which he avenged the affront imposed upon the young A. D. C. the letter would have been compelled by unwritten law to have blown out his breins.

Perjury is according to every criminal code of Europe a felony, yet the ca-respondent in a divorce case, no unwritten law to perjure himself in the witness box "like a gentleman," and failure to comply with this redeath, as one of the most eminent of English statesmen found to his cost. In endeavoring to exculpate himself of the unfounded charge of havwhom he had known from childhood. he had been guilty of too great incon found A. Abeille, the French club. "Turn dancing master and be timacy with her mother. This confess written law,-New York World.

his aide-de-camp, who drawing his should be recognized and be once sabre, threatened to run through the more driven forth like the wandering

> There are all sorts of minor provisions of the unwritten law which it would take too much time and space to enumerate here, but among which may be mentioned the rule which construes it as an insult when a man in filling his neighbor's glass slants the bottle backward instead of forward. More than one sanguinary duel has been fought to the personal knowledge of the writer in Austria for a breach of etiquette of this kind. In the same way in the orient, if in showing the blade of a sword to an acquaintance one happens to turn the edge thereof toward him he will consider his honor impugned, and if by any chance he is a Japanese of rank he is capable of going off and committing suicide by ripping hiwself open, leaving a document stating that having been insulted hono demanded that he should commit hara-kirl, and calling upon his nearest relatives to avenge him.

In Relation to the Thaw Case.

With regard to the application of the unwritten law to the case of Harry Thaw, there are several considerations to be noted in endeavoring to bring it to bear upon the tragedy of Madison Square roof garden. If young Mrs. Thaw had been without any stormy antecedents, and had been subjected by Stanford White to indignities and insulting proposals since her marriage, her hurband would have been justified, according to the terms of the unwritten law, as understood abroad, in shooting him, though of course it would have been more chivalrous to have given him a chance of defending himself instead of taking him at a disadvantage and unarmed.

matter how guilty, is compelled by the was educated at the cost of White, quirement entails an ostracism which her marriage, cannot be denied. Her by many is regarded as worse than | . Plations with White before becoming ing betrayed a young married woman he had actually caught him in the

One of the times to get busy is when you are discouraged and think there is no use trying any more.

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Feminine Amenities.

"Isn't that the poetess over there in the corner who came to see us after dinner the other night?" asked the girl, "and wept all over the place, telling us her tale of woe; wept so that I went out and got some things for her dinner and cooked them for her and you brought out a bottle of your very best wine and gave it to her?"

"Yes," returned the woman, "she doesn't seem to see us now, does

"The next time she comes to us with her tale of woe," affirmed the girl severely, "she won't see us, if we catch a glimpse of her first."

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Value of the Newspaper.

Some Republican congressmen were discussing the president's suggestion to shut out from the mails such newspapers as have been printing indecent details of the Thaw trial in New York. Mr. Littlefield of Maine indulged in a general review of the press, its powers, functions and privileges. "If it were not for the vigilant press of this country, with its trained corps of representatives in Washington," he said, "I don't know whether I would care to serve in congress. My experience here has taught me that the newspapers perform a service of inestimable value to the country. I sometimes think that congress would drift into many excesses if the press gallery were not here to keep us in bounds."

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ago and I did not rest as I should have, but kept up about my many duties. After a time I became so weak I could not do any work at all. had severe backaches and such dreadful headaches in the back part and top of my head. My eyes were easily tired and at times I saw black spots before them. I consulted several doctors but without the slightest benefit. The pains were so in nse

that my hair turned white. "I lost continually in weight and strength and was almost in despair when a friend recommended Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I tried them according to directions and soon began to feel relief. At the end of three months I had gained ten pounds in weight and had no more trouble with my nerves. I have been in perfect health ever since and can heartly commend Dr. Williams' Pink Pills."

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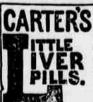
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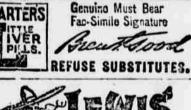
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ber of his class, and of the communi- had better leave the army." ty in general, and of society, both at home and abroad.

OF A ABEILLE BY

EDWARD DEACON PARKER

. When the late Edward Parker Dea- I leave the army?"

was universally regarded as having the consequence of a quarrel at received his deserts, and his assailant | Vienna, thereby bringing discredit to looked upon as having complied with the corps of officers of the famous the requirements of the code of social regiment to which he belonged. Wellsethics. Nor was he ever troubled by ley, of course, was obliged to the authorities in connection there- admit that he had been guilty of the with, and remained a respected mem- charge. "Then," said the duke, "you

ARCHDUKE OTTO

"Leave the army, sir?" exclaimed the colonel. "But what am I to do if he admitted under examination that

have to express my gratitude to you, sir, for having undertaken the defense of my dear niece at a moment when she was in urgent need of your protection. In so doing you received a blow for which you yourself cannot obtain satisfaction and which you could not return. But I can redress that indignity for you;" and with that he strode up to Archduke Otto, and before all present slapped his face. thereupon ordering him under arrest for a period of six months, and de-

Unwritten Law and Perjury.

Construed Insults.

But, unfortunately, young Mrs. Thaw is not without a past; that she and had known him first as a school girl, then as a model, and finally as a chorus girl, for several years prior to Mrs. Thaw, and also her career in New York and Paris prior to her marriage were of a nature to debar her husband from shooting White unless very act of insulting her. That at least is the status of the Thaw-White drama from the point of view of un-